Forgotten Thanksgiving:

A Holiday in Name Only?

"O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever."
–Ps. 136:1-3 (KJV)

Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, Pennsylvania
Sunday, November 28th, AD 2021

The LORD'S Day

The Twenty-eighth Day of November, *in the Year of our Lord* 2021

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.

In our studies in "**God & Government**," we examine the doctrinal shortcomings and flawed assumptions that underlie the spiritually impotent and radically unbiblical "**Social Gospel"** movement.

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"Oh, How He Loves You and Me"* (#558)

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"Count Your Blessings* (#545).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Luke 17:11-18.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Special Solo: Mr. Dennis Oliver.
1) "Mary had a Little Lamb;" 2) "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem."

Announcemnts.

Hymn: *"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"* (#548).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"FORGOTTEN THANKSGIVING."*

Closing Hymn:* *"Faith of our Fathers* (#550)."

Benediction.*

*The Congregation will please arise, if able.

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Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)
Also check out our YouTube Channel (search *"Terry Reese"*)!
Camp Mantowagan website: *https://www.campmantowagan.com*

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—NO SERVICE this Week.

Our studies in Daniel ch. 4 will resume, Lord willing, on Dec. 8.

Today's Verses for Reflection:

"For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened."—Romans 1:21 (NASB)

Week of Nov. 21-27, 2021

Sunday School—1; Morning Worship—9
Midweek Prayer & Bible Study—No Service.
Church Offering: $275.00

Christmas Gift Boxes

We are collecting for four Boxes this year. **Non-perishable food items** or **cash donations** (which will go towards the purchase of a gift card) will be accepted. Please forward your cash donations unto Don or Francis Beach. Boxes will be distributed on 12/22/21.

OUR THANKS TO PASTOR MATT FOREMAN & DON BEACH FOR FILLING IN LAST WEEK!

C.E.F. CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!

Please invite any young people you may know (Preschool to 5th Grade) to our CEF-sponsored Christmas Party, which will be held on Sat., Dec. 4, from 10 AM to Noon. These wonderful & dedicated CEF volunteers are coming at their own expense, free-of-charge, to help our church and to serve the Lord Jesus Christ through the proclamation of the Gospel unto area youth.

Abe Lincoln's Lessons in Theology

It was Abraham Lincoln who inaugurated our modern national tradition of a November Thanksgiving observance, which has been annually reaffirmed ever since by Presidential Proclamation. In his Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863, Mr. Lincoln called upon the Nation to engage in ***"…humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience…"*** This powerful demand for nationwide repentance is highly reminiscent of his earlier proclamation of that same year, calling for a day of **"National prayer and humiliation."** In that document, he states:

> *"And, insomuch as we know that, by His divine law, nations like individuals are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a* ***punishment, inflicted upon us, for our presumptuous sins****, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole People? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown.* ***But we have forgotten God****. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace,* ***too proud to pray to the God that made us!*** *It behooves us then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to* ***confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness****."*
>
> A. Lincoln
>
> A. Lincoln, 1863

Note: If this was Mr. Lincoln's message unto his *own* generation, one can scarcely imagine what he would say unto *us*—the "entitlement" generation!